

SELECTBOARD SPECIAL MEETING
Draft Minutes

December 5, 2017

7:00pm Calais Town Office

Attending: Daniel Currier, Pam DeAndrea, Denise Wheeler, Rose Pelchuck, Sharon Winn Fannon, John Brabant, Clif Emmons, Jan Ohlsson, Lou Cherry, Rick Kehne, Stephanie Kaplan, Alfred Larrabee, Larry Bush, Gary Root and John McCullough.

Actions:

Denise Wheeler called the Special Selectboard Meeting to order at 7:04 pm with some members of the Planning Commission, Conservation Commission and Roads Advisory Committee to hear a presentation about the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Road Erosion Inventory and Road Sign Inventory for the Town of Calais. Dan Currier, CVRPC Transportation Program Manager, gave the presentation along with assistance from Pam DeAndrea, CVRPC Senior GIS Planner.

Calais Road Erosion Inventory:

The Municipal Roads General Permit goes into effect May 1, 2018. The first two years, until 2020, are for municipalities to perform the field work in preparation for meeting the obligations of this permit. An inventory of all the roads in town, broken down into 100 meter segments, needs to be done and each is evaluated whether it meets, partially meets or doesn't meet the established criteria for erosion control. Each road segment that is hydro-logically connected must have a form completed as part of this Municipal Roads General Permit. The State generated the list of municipal roadways used in the inventory. CVRPC staff along with Toby Talbot, Operations Manager, have already done the inventory in Calais. Calais can now move forward with implementation sooner since our inventory is done. Of the 24 towns in the CVRPC area, 13 towns are done with the inventory and 11 are left to be inventoried. Those road segments that fully meet the criteria now must be re-inventoried in five years to be sure they still meet the erosion control criteria set out in the permit. Jim Ryan from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Watershed Management Division, will maintain the database for the Municipal Roads General Permit according to Dan Currier. Each municipality will need to report in on progress made every six months. The towns are self-reporting and the Selectboard signs off on the fact the work was completed.

Any road segment (100 meters) with greater than 10% slope that doesn't meet the criteria, must be corrected within the first five years (by 2023). Calais has 25 of these non-compliant road segments. Dan spoke about Class 4 roads, 12-inches or deeper _____. For budgeting purposes, Dan Currier suggested budgeting \$2,600.00 for the permit fees. Calais did receive a Better Roads Grant that paid for the inventory and report with CVRPC. We discussed "the process" going forward of keeping track of doing the work on each road segment, when it is complete, filling out the form, reporting in every six months as required, etc. The Selectboard will discuss options with Toby Talbot, Operations Manager, along with the Road Commissioner, Alfred Larrabee for keeping detailed records with regards to this permit. Dan Currier noted more grant funds will be available in July from CVRPC. Dan expects the town will see the Draft Report in January 2018 and Final Report in February 2018.

Calais Road Sign Inventory:

Dan Currier reported the original Calais Road Sign Inventory was done in 2011. The revised inventory documents 426 total road signs in town. Regulatory signs such as stop, yield and speed limit signs must be reflective signs. There was a federal mandate to inventory and replace road signs but the time deadline went away. Dan Currier notes if you replace a road sign, it needs to be in compliance

with the new requirements. The High Risk Rural Roads Grant Program used to provide some funding for road signs but does not anymore. There was a prolonged discussion regarding traffic speed and traffic calming options along Route 14 in East Calais Village and what steps can be taken to improve safety for those in this area.

Denise Wheeler, Selectboard Chair, thanked Dan Currier and Pam DeAndrea on behalf of the Town for the informative and interesting presentation this evening and for the long-standing positive relationship the Town enjoys with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission staff.

Rose Pelchuck made a motion to adjourn at 8:37 pm. Clif Emmons seconded the motion, it was voted on and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Pelchuck
Selectboard Member